



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CAMPAIGN 2000: INITIATIVE DRIVE UNDERWAY TO REPEAL 50 CENTS PER PACK TAX ON CIGARETTES.

Editor's note: A petition drive is underway to repeal Prop. 10, which was narrowly approved by voters last year. Prop. 10 increased the tax on cigarettes by 50 cents per pack, with the revenue going to Calif.'s 58 counties to promote early childhood development programs. Here's our brief update & analysis...

...Unlike the NO side of Prop. 10 in November of last year, big tobacco at this point is **not** involved in this effort to repeal director Rob Reiner's initiative, which won by a 56,000 vote margin statewide. The mover behind this initiative is Ned Roscoe of Cigarettes Cheaper, a retail chain of 427 stores nation-wide, with 230 stores in Calif. Cigarettes Cheaper is the nation's 3rd largest retailer of cigarettes, behind #1 Wal-Mart and #2 7-11. In fact, Roscoe told **Calpeek** that Prop. 10 has been a bonanza for his chain. Despite this, he feels the tax is unfair...

...Roscoe and his official committee, Cigarettes Cheaper to Repeal Prop. 10, has hired Arno Petition Consulting to handle the street effort. Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk are working the legal aspects of the initiative. The official deadline is Sept. 17th, but Roscoe expects to turn in petitions with at least 620,000 valid signatures by Aug. 20th. In addition to Arno, Roscoe says his retail outlets also will gather signatures. And here is something unique: his stores will ask buyers to run their driver's licenses through a hi-tech system (to check age) which also will crank out a voter registration form with all the data. Very nifty. So if they want, buyers can register while shopping...

...No plans yet beyond the signature collection stage and it's unclear whether big tobacco will come in as an independent expenditure participant. Roscoe says the

focus group results done this past February (Charlton Research did the study) point to many negatives if big tobacco gets involved...

...So how will Roscoe pull this thing off if it qualifies? He says it's a numbers game: there are over 6 million smokers in Calif. Get them an AV ballot and you have a shot at repealing Prop. 10. That's very simplistic, but you never know. Stay tuned...

EL TORO Part II: WHERE DO ORANGE CO. ELECTED LEADERS STAND ON QUESTION OF NEW AIRPORT?

Editor's note: As **Calpeek** discovered after writing Part I of this series last week, the subject of a proposed new international airport at the soon-to-be closed El Toro Marine Corps Air Station is a very hot topic and it cuts across political party lines. Here is Part II of our continuing series...

...The politics of airport expansion aren't isolated to Orange Co. There's a huge fight going on right now in Los Angeles about expanding LAX (and ditto in San Diego). The nimby (not in my backyard) crowd in L.A. points toward El Toro --- while nimby opponents of El Toro are telling everyone that if there's going to be a new regional international airport it ought to be in San Bernardino, at the site of former Norton AFB...

...The folks in San Berdu would love it, but they seem to be caught in the Rodney Dangerfield trap -- they don't get much respect despite the fact there's 10,000 feet of FAA certified runway, 14,000 acres of redevelopment land, plus a name: San Bernardino Internat'l Airport & Trade Center. FYI: The big problem in O.C. is that John Wayne Airport can't handle the big jumbo jets (the runway is too short) and Newport Beach isn't about to permit airport expansion. That's why Newport Beach is pushing so hard for El Toro...

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...And of course all the yelling and screaming has some elected officials ducking for cover – especially if they represent voters in both halves of the ongoing fight: **Northern O.C.** generally favors a new airport at El Toro, while **Southern O.C.** is very much opposed...

...There are 5 U.S. House members who represent big chunks of Orange Co. The big **supporters** of a new El Toro airport are Dana Rohrabacher(R) and Ed Royce(R). Ron Packard(R), who represents Southern O.C./No. San Diego, is **opposed**. Loretta Sanchez, the only Demo in the O.C. delegation, is **not** taking a position – or as one source said, “She’s ducking real big because she’s got lots of supporters from the southern part of the county.” As for Chris Cox(R), he’s also **neutral**, but recently went on record saying that no matter what’s done, the property ought to be developed by the **private sector**. The base’s value is around \$7-10 billion. Cox has a mixed north/south voter base...

...In looking at the CA Legislature, the most outspoken opponent of El Toro is new GOP Assemblywoman Pat Bates. She has a few allies in the O.C. delegation in Sacto. Sources have IDed Assemblyman Bill Campbell (R) and State Senators John Lewis(R) and Bill Morrow (R) as **opposed** to El Toro. On the YES side, favoring a new airport are State Senators Joe Dunn(D) and GOP Senate Leader Ross Johnson; GOP Assembly Leader Scott Baugh and Assemblymembers Lou Correa(D), Dick Ackerman(R), Marilyn Brewer(R) and Ken Mad-dox(R). FYI: Ackerman is running for Lewis’ 33rd SD seat next year. Wonder what impact his stand on El Toro will have with voters???

...Back to Bates. She authored 2 bills “friendly” to the NO side: (1) AB 1248 would require a public vote before the county sells bonds to pay for airport construction; and (2) AB 1479 would change the composition of the citizens advisory commission which is handling the El Toro reuse question. Both bills failed to get out of the Assembly Local Govt. Cmt. and thus are now 2-year bills...

...Next week: the consultants, PR firms and other groups on the YES and NO sides of El Toro. We’ve collected some real interesting info. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '99: EARLY SPRING MUNI ELECTIONS.

Editor’s note: Here’s another update on early Spring municipal elections, with the emphasis this week on the upcoming June 8th runoff election in L.A. City...

● **L.A.’s 10th District** – Incumbent Councilman Nate Holden came within a hair (less than 100 votes) of winning outright this past April 13th against rival Madison Shockley, who has been strongly endorsed by the *L.A. Times*. But other than news stories about endorsements, this campaign is almost invisible to those outside of the 10th CD. Shockley has been walking precincts and sources say Shockley will hit Holden very hard about the so-called **Bradley endorsement**. Very late in the primary, and to the astonishment of insiders, Holden claimed the late Tom Bradley had endorsed him for reelection last year, before he died. How do you prove that? This much we do know: there was not much love lost between these two – especially since it was Holden’s unsuccessful mayoral campaign in 1989 that provided the evidence which showed Bradley’s various conflicts of interest. Still, our sources give Holden an edge with two weeks to go...

● **L.A.’s 14th District** – Although most of organized labor in L.A. City (L.A. County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and SEIU) are behind political consultant Victor Griego, **not** all unions are in lock step. Rival candidate Nick Pacheco claims backing from UFCW 770, So. Calif. District Council of Laborers, Operating Engineers, Steelworkers and the UAW. Our sources rate the Griego vs. Pacheco runoff a toss up...

● **L.A.’s 7th District** – In this special to replace Richard Alarcon, many insiders are telling **Calpeek** that this race is over: Alex Padilla is now a favorite to win over Corinne Sanchez. Sources say Padilla’s ground operation is awesome...

● **L.A. Charter Reform** – If you’re interested in getting updates about charter reform, call Siegel & Nicholl at (213)895-4646 and ask to be put on the Charter Watch list. *Charter Watch* is faxed or emailed on a regular basis. It’s published by the Coalition of Public Service Providers (Engineers & Architects Assn., SEIU 347, AFSCME 36, L.A. City Attys. Assn., Operating Engineers 501, etc.)...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

June 8	L.A. Muni Runoff Election.
June 15	Calif. budget must be passed.
July 16	CA Legislature recesses
July 16-18	UC Davis Extension's 15 th Annual Political Campaign Mgt. Institute @UC Davis...
July 16-19	Council of State Govts. West 1999 annual meeting, Sun Valley, Idaho
July 24-28	Nat'l Conf. of State Legislatures annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN

CAMPAIGN '99: NEW POLL IN S.F. MAYOR'S RACE.

Editor's note: Two stories in a row about the mayor's race in San Francisco! Yes because there are some new polling numbers which just got released by the S.F. Examiner and KTVU-Channel 2. The poll was conducted by Research 2000 of Rockville, MD, May 10-12 among 628 likely voters. The results are not especially good for incumbent Mayor Willie Brown, who seeks a second term on Nov. 2nd. Here's our brief update & analysis...

...In the 1-on-1 battle, Brown is leading three other rivals, but the survey is somewhat meaningless because former Mayor Frank Jordan hasn't announced (and won't make a decision until the first week of June) and S.F. Co. Bd. of Supes Chair Tom Ammiano keeps telling the news media that he's NOT running, but the news media doesn't seem to believe him. So Clint Reilly, former campaign consultant turned real estate investor, is the only one actually in the race. In the survey, Brown has **34%**, with Ammiano at **19%**, Jordan at **18%** and Reilly at **9%**. **20%** were undecided...

...If Ammiano keeps his word, it's unclear where his 19% would go, according to our sources, because of all the candidates in this matchup, Ammiano is the most liberal – more so than Mayor Willie. Reilly and Jordan's politics are more *mainstream* and *center/right*...

...In terms of *job performance*, this is an area where Brown is in trouble. Only **29%** view Brown's job performance during these last 3+ years as positive vs. **71%** who view him negatively. What's the problem? Muni, the city's troubled transportation system. **58%** rated the Muni system as poor. When Brown ran against Jordan in '95, he promised to fix Muni within his first 100 days in office. Brown hired a new Muni GM and has allocated more money to the system. Despite this, the system isn't showing signs of a turnaround...

...Reilly is using Muni as an issue. In one of his recent news releases, Reilly attacked Muni's policy of allowing a driver who pled guilty to a DUI in 1998 to drive a bus which struck and killed a woman on April 15th. Not good news. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE RACES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key Legislative races for 2000...

☒ **11th AD** – With Demo Assemblyman Tom Torlakson's formal announcement May 18th that he will run against Sen. Richard Rainey(R) next year, there's now a Demo scramble for the 11th AD now held by Torlakson. On the Demo side, some sources think the guy with the best shot is Contra Costa Co. Sup. Joe Canciamilla. Other Demos who are said to be looking include BART Director Joel Keller (former mayor of Antioch); former Concord Councilman Lou Rasas; and current Concord Councilman Michael Pastrick. Even though the 11th AD is considered Demo turf, Contra Costa Co. Sup. Mark DeSaulnier(R) is looking things over...

☒ **55th AD** – This is Assemblyman Dick Floyd's AD. He is *termed out* and there are at least 3 Demos looking at this AD: Long Beach Councilwoman Jenny Orpeza, Compton College Board trustee Carl Robinson, and water board member Keith McDonald, son of U.S. Rep. Juanita McDonald...

☒ **59th AD** – This seat now held by GOP Assemblyman Bob Margett of Arcadia could draw a huge crowd of GOP candidates and at least one Demo. The Demo is Covina Councilman Chris Christiansen, who retired last year after 30 years with the CHP. On the GOP side, here's the list of potential candidates eyeing this race: Covina Councilmembers Kevin Stapleton & Walt Allen; Claremont Councilman Al Leiga; Arcadia Councilman Bob Harbicht; San Dimas Councilman Sandy McHenry; La Verne Councilman Patrick Gatti; and Pomona Mayor Ed Cortez. Stay tuned...

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CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

◆ ***Calpeek's Reading File*** – A nice May 18th story by *L.A. Times* staffer Jim Newton about Democratic Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa's future prospects in L.A. City politics. A central part of the story is focused on the 2001 election for mayor – and whether Villaraigosa will run and what his chances are. Several **Calpeek** sources think Villaraigosa is taking a second look at the council seat now belonging to Jackie Goldberg. Goldberg announced last week that she would run for Villaraigosa's 45th AD next year...

● ***Calpeek's Legal File*** – We kept wondering why FEC/FPPC political accountant Chris Miller of San Diego hadn't responded to our questionnaire for the consultants' directory. Now we know! He pleaded guilty May 6th to 10 counts of grand theft and 2 counts of perjury. He stole about \$119,000 from such clients as GOPers Steve Baldwin and Jan Goldsmith, plus County Sup. Ron Roberts, San Diego Councilwoman Christine Kehoe, and some PACs, plus the San Diego Lincoln Club. Miller, 37, has already come up with \$60,000 and says he'll repay the rest. Sentencing is set for August...

◆ ***Potomac Fever*** – A few notes about *Campaign 2000*: GOP TX Gov. George W. Bush has named UC Regent Gerald Parsky as chair of his Calif. campaign. Investment banker Brad Freeman to serve as Calif. finance chair... Demo VP Al Gore wins backing from 46 of 47 Demo Assemblymembers. The only defection is Dick Floyd, who supports Gore rival Bill Bradley... Bradley's campaign has added Jacques DeGraff as a sr. advisor, pollster Diane Feldman, and Robert Richman as nat'l field director. Bradley is coming to Calif in mid-June...

◆ ***New Numbers from Campaign '98*** – Here's something you may not know: Gov. Gray Davis(D) carried all Demo ADs and SDs in his win over GOP AG Dan Lungren. But Davis **also** carried these GOP SDs: 7th (Rainey), 15th (McPherson), 19th (Wright), 29th (Mountjoy) and 31st (Brulte). And Davis carried 15 ADs that are currently held by GOP members. The biggest win in a GOP AD was in the Peter Frusetta's 24th AD, which Davis carried by 24 points. In the

Southern Calif. area, Davis carried the 59th, 60th, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 68th, 77th and 80th ADs. Many of the ADs are considered safe GOP turf...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Bob Forsyth, well liked public affairs spin doctor, died in Sacto on May 8th after a long battle with cancer. Bob was former Senate President David Roberti's press secretary. A memorial service is planned June 6. R.I.P...

● Anothr sad note: Herbert Baus, 85, died May 6 at his Palm Springs home. He was half of the team of Baus & Ross, pioneers in the campaign management profession. Among his clients: L.A. Mayor Norris Poulson, Calif. Gov. Pat Brown and Richard Nixon. R.I.P...

● Gov. Gray Davis' top campaign advisor, Garry South, has been hired as a sr. counselor to the pr/pa firm of Burson Marsteller. B/M also hired Jim Francis, a key advisor to Texas Gov. George Bush, in a similar capacity...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Public Affairs Officer.** The American Civil Rights Institute, a national, non-profit organization, is looking for a full-time public affairs officer with strong writing and research skills for issues related to race and gender preferences and education reform. Duties include media events, speechwriting and op-eds. Press/journalism experience required. Salary DOE; medical benefits included. Please fax resume and writing samples to (916)444-2279 or call Kevin Nguyen at (916)444-2278...

● **Communications Coordinator.** Sacramento water association seeks experienced communications coordinator. Duties include preparing monthly newsletter, developing media relations and advocating for association. Salary negotiable. Fax resume to (916)442-4035...

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